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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUESXBQ/AMEMBASSY BERN 6007
INFO RUFHST/USDEL SALT TWO-I 2551
RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2620
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 7166
BT
SECRET STATE 225759

SALT

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SUBJ: ESTABLISHMENT OF US-USSR STANDING CONSULTATIVE
COMMISSION IN GENEVA

1. IN THE CURRENT TALKS IN GENEVA THE SALT DELEGATIONS
HAVE PREPARED AND REFERRED TO WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW A
BILATERAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING THAT WILL ESTABLISH
A STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION. MEMORANDUM WILL CHARGE
SCC WITH RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER ARTICLE XIII OF THE ABM
TREATY AND ARTICLE VI OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, AND WILL
ALSO PROVIDE THAT CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 7 OF THE SEPTEMBER 1971 AGREEMENT ON
MEASURES TO REDUCE RISK OF OUTBREAK OF NUCLEAR WAR IS
WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE COMMISSION.

2. ARTICLE XIII OF THE ABM TREATY, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT
ON OCTOBER 3, 1972, PROVIDES THAT THE PARTIES WILL
ESTABLISH A STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION TO "PROMOTE
THE OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION" OF THE TREATY. MATTERS
RELATING TO THE ABM TREATY THAT ARE WITHIN THE COMPETENCE
OF THE COMMISSION ARE SPECIFIED IN ARTICLE XIII. IN
ARTICLE VI OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN MEASURES
WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE
ARMS, WHICH ALSO CAME INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 3, 1972,
THE PARTIES AGREED TO USE THE SCC ESTABLISHED UNDER THE
ABM TREATY TO "PROMOTE THE OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION

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OF THE PROVISIONS" OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT. ARTICLE 7
OF THE SEPTEMBER 1971 BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON MEASURES

PROVIDES FOR CONSULTATIONS, AS AGREED, TO CONSIDER
QUESTIONS RELATING TO IMPLEMENTATION.

3. THE PROPOSED MEMORANDUM WILL STATE THAT THE
STANDING CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION WILL MEET AT GENEVA, AND
PROVIDE THAT IT MAY ALSO MEET AT SUCH OTHER PLACES AS MAY
BE AGREED.

4. NOW PLANNED THAT AGREEMENT ON THE SCC MEMORANDUM WILL
BE ANNOUNCED BY THE PARTIES AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE
CURRENT SALT SESSION IN GENEVA, PROBABLY SOMETIME DURING
WEEK OF DECEMBER 18.

5. EMBASSY REQUESTED INFORM FOREIGN OFFICE OF THESE PLANS
(IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA. 8 BELOW) AND SEEK AGREEMENT OF
SWISS GOVERNMENT FOR ESTABLISHING SCC IN GENEVA. EMBASSY
MAY INFORM SWISS THAT COMMISSION WILL CONSIST OF A US AND
A USSR COMPONENT, WITH A COMMISSIONER AND A DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER ON EACH SIDE SUPPORTED BY SMALL STAFFS.
COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS WILL BE CLOSED AND CONFIDENTIAL
ALTHOUGH JOINT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING COMMISSION
BUSINESS MAY BE MADE FROM TIME TO TIME. THERE WILL BE A
MINIMUM OF TWO COMMISSION MEETINGS EACH YEAR.

6. THE SCC WILL BE AN INDEPENDENT ENTITY AND TO ASSURE
ITS EFFECTIVE OPERATION WE BELIEVE AN AGREEMENT ON ITS
RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES WILL EVENTUALLY BE
NECESSARY FOR THE COMMISSION AND ITS MEMBERS. HOWEVER,
SINCE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL PROBABLY NOT
OCCUR FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, WE SEE NO NEED TO DEVELOP
DETAILS OF AN RPI AGREEMENT NOW. WE BELIEVE UN SPECIAL
MISSIONS CONVENTION WHICH WAS USED TO DEFINE STATUS OF
SALT DELEGATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL MODEL FOR RPI AGREEMENT.
THE SCC WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE NO MISSION OR TASK WITH
RESPECT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SWITZERLAND OR ANY OTHER
THIRD PARTY. AT THIS TIME WE ARE SIMPLY ASKING FOR SWISS
AGREEMENT THAT THE SCC MAY BE ESTABLISHED IN GENEVA AND
ALSO THAT THIS FACT MAY BE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME
THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION IS

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ANNOUNCED.

7. FOREIGN OFFICE SHOULD BE REQUESTED TO HANDLE THIS MATTER ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS UNTIL SCC AGREEMENT ANNOUNCED.

8. AS IN CASE OF THE SEPARATE AGREEMENTS WITH SWISS REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE TWO SALT DELEGATIONS, IDENTICAL PARALLEL APPROACHES BY EMBASSY BERN AND SOVIET EMBASSY BERN SHOULD BE MADE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE ON THE

SAME DAY. US SALT DELEGATION IN GENEVA IS COORDINATING PLANS WITH THE SOVIETS, AND EMBASSY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONSULT AMBASSADOR SMITH IN GENEVA. WHEN HE INDICATES SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO PROCEED, EMBASSY SHOULD THEN CONSULT SOVIET EMBASSY BERN AND WORK OUT DETAILS OF PARALLEL APPROACHES.

GDS YY

ROGERS

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